

I am shocked and dismayed at Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require force their stations to air a politically motivated anti-Kerry documentary only two weeks days before the coming election.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge. This considerable privelege carries moral and legal responsibilities to serve the public interest. If the piece airs, the company's licenses should clearly be revoked immediately for violation of the legal requirements.

In addition, this serious breach of the public trust makes clearer than ever the need for stronger media ownership and pubilc airwave usage rules to ensure that corporate and political interests do not monopolize the open exchange of information that is at the heart of our system. A free press is an indispensable element of any domocracy worth the name. If our "news" organizations can be bought, and "news" programming delivered with the intent of dis-informing the public, our free elections become a meaningless farce.

Thank you.